

Arborist report for Adam and Jessica Masten at 719 SW 57<sup>th</sup> st. Corvallis, Oregon

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### Summary

The Masten family recently purchased a home with six *Pseudotsuga menziesii*, Douglas Fir trees that grow in a remnant Highly Protected Significant Vegetation (HPSV) grove on the east side of their home. Based upon visual inspection, it is clear that each tree requires a different prescription to make the newly built home safe from any immediate hazard that this grove is currently presenting.

### Requirements

According to the Sparrow Hill Subdivision Declaration of Covenants and Restrictions, Deed Restriction #3, an arborist must identify the monetary value of any tree being removed by using the trunk method formula.

According to Section 4.12.30 Exemptions of the City of Corvallis Land Use Development Code, the proposed activity of pruning (4.12.30 b. 3.) and removal (4.12.30 c.) are exempt, but will be under review by the Urban Forester and Community Development Director (and/ or Land Use Inspector).



Map 1: Map not to scale or date. There are currently no available aerial photographs. Image Google

If the following recommendations are properly and professionally acted upon, the trees on this property will have increased health and longevity.

## Site Plan

Tree "A" is a 19.5" Douglas fir, it is 12' from the home. This particular tree needs to have all the branches that were improperly cut for construction purposes properly pruned. In addition removal of dead wood and a general structure clearance are also recommended. It would be in the homeowner's best interest to also remove excessive bark dust build up from around the trunk of the tree to prevent potential damage. This tree is healthy and in good condition, there are no signs of failure at this time.

Tree "B" is a 13.5" Douglas fir, it is 17' from the home. Recommended action for this tree is to remove both failed attempts of a codominant union, remove dead wood, and remove wisteria that has grown from a neighboring property. This tree appears to have endured storm damage at one point in time. It is important for a climber to inspect this area and either choose a new top, or reduce the crown to a lateral branch. It would be in the homeowner's best interest to also remove excessive bark dust build up from around the trunk of the tree to prevent potential damage. This tree is in healthy and good condition, there are no outstanding signs of failure at this time.

Tree "C" is a 14.5" Douglas fir, it is 21' from the home. It would be in the homeowner's best interest to also remove excessive bark dust build up from around the trunk of the tree to prevent potential damage. This tree is in great shape, removal of dead wood is the only recommendation at this time.

Tree "D" is a 16" Douglas fir, it is 16' from the home. This tree has a codominant union with roughly 6' of inclusion with sap weeping on the east and west side. The predicted failure of this tree is aimed at the home in the SW direction. It is my recommendation to remove this tree to reduce the potential for failure, it is in my opinion, a mishap that this tree was selected for survival when constructing the home. The monetary value of this tree is \$355, and it will be replaced within 180 days with an approved native species. My recommendation for replacement is *Acer circinatum*, Oregon vine maple, this species is excellent at growing in the shade of Douglas firs and is one of the only natives that would best fit this site. Removing the stump to plant this species is unnecessary unless the homeowner wishes this task, the maple could be planted elsewhere.

Tree "E" is a 13" Douglas fir, it is 22' from the home. This tree has been negatively impacted by development and is not fit for this site. As a result of installing utilities on this property it appears that the excavator ran into the trunk and cut roots. This tree is currently growing with a lean to the east and the roots that were badly damaged are on the west, encouraging the destabilization of the tree. Removing this tree before it fails is highly recommended to avoid damages to neighboring property and the utilities. The monetary value of this tree is \$266, and it will be replaced within 180 days with an approved native species. My recommendation for replacement is *Acer circinatum*, Oregon vine maple, this species is excellent at growing in the shade of Douglas firs and is one of the only natives that would best fit this site. Removing the stump to plant this species is unnecessary unless the homeowner wishes this task, the maple could be planted elsewhere.

Tree "F" is a 19" Douglas fir, it is 13' from the home. This particular tree needs to have all the branches that were improperly cut for construction purposes properly pruned. In addition removal of dead wood and a general structure clearance are also recommended. It would be in the homeowner's best interest to also remove excessive bark dust build up from around the trunk of the tree to prevent potential damage. This tree is healthy and in good condition, there are no signs of failure at this time. In addition,

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it is important to monitor the trunk for decay, the home has a deck that is 1' from the trunk of the tree, making me believe that some root disturbance occurred during construction.

Photos of site



Tree A This photograph depicts the improper pruning of the tree branches as well as the close proximity to the house.



*Tree B This photograph depicts an attempted codominant stem, that is suggested for mitigation.*

There is no photograph of Tree C, this tree only needs minor pruning and the photographic depiction is not vital for this report.



*Tree D This photograph depicts the east side of the large codominant fir with a ~6' bark inclusion that is swollen and weeping sap.*



*Tree E This photograph shows a light root excavation done with a rake, water, and hands. The top wound is on the trunk and the bottom wound is of the roots.*



*Tree F This photograph depicts the improper pruning of the tree branches as well as the close proximity to the house.*